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EUGENE Weekly

**Hate Free
Every Thursday!**

June 18, 2026 - Vol. 45 - No. 24

Karl Shaffer looks for birds in Alton Baker Park.
Photo by Eve Weston

It's a Bird! It's a Plane!

**It's
Pride!**

From queer outdoor pursuits to Eugene's annual Pride fest, celebrate all that is LGBTQIA+

**Bricks \$ Mortar
on Costco Page 5**

**Juneteenth on
the 19th Page 11**

**Hiking Gordon
Lakes Page 13**

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A vertical banner for WOW Hall, a community center for performing arts. The banner is divided into three main sections, each with a different background color. The top section is black with white text and features the WOW Hall logo, which is a stylized 'W' and 'H' with a flame-like shape in the center. The middle section is light blue and features the 'Terrapin Flyer' logo, which is a circular emblem with a terrapin and the text 'TERRAPIN FLYER'. The bottom section is light green and features the 'Pride Kick-Off Show + Dance Party' logo, which includes a stylized bird and the text 'PRIDE KICK-OFF SHOW + DANCE PARTY'. The banner also includes the text 'WOW HALL', 'COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS', 'TWO NIGHTS! FRI & SAT, JUNE 19 & 20', 'SUMMER 2026', 'Membership Party & Pre-Concert BBQ', 'THURSDAY, JUNE 25', 'FRIDAY, JUNE 26', '7:30 - 9:30 p.m.', 'All Ages Show Featuring - Queer Choir + Homophonic', '9:30 - 11:00 p.m.', 'All Ages Queer Joy Dance Party Featuring - DJ Lyta Blunt', 'WOWHALL.ORG', 'ALL AGES', 'EST. 1975', '8TH & LINCOLN', and 'DOWNTOWN EUG.'.

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OPINION

letters

BALLOTS, EMBEZZLERS AND BACKWATERS

Give Me My Damn Ballot!

Demond Hawkins' viewpoint ('Disengagement is Dangerous') last week articulated my frustration with a disappointingly large percentage of eligible voters in this country who squander away the right to cast a vote. I have voted in every election, local and national, since I was 18 thereby poking a finger into the eye of would-be authoritarians and keeping our feeble democracy alive. Those who are jaded somehow expect change in government to happen overnight. History demonstrates that change in systems takes time. It takes generations! *Give Us The Ballot* by Ari Berman should be required reading for all high schoolers. Local elections are even more important. Springfield voters check out Callee Ackland for Springfield City Council on the upcoming November ballot. She represents a younger generation, is a veteran and will be an advocate for productive housing policies.

Chava Kronen
Eugene

Trump of Lane County?

Thank you for the informative article ('Money Like Water,' *EW* June 11 edition) on Kathy Jones-McCann's many, varied and so far successful attempts at eluding her share of fiscal and moral responsibilities to the community and land from which she has acquired her great wealth.

Her hubris is impressive.

I am left with only one question (or possibly two:) Who does she think she is? Donald Trump?

Linda Seymour
Eugene

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

TONIGHT ON ACTION MCMNEWS: AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT **TRUMP!**

SIR, DO YOU HAVE ANY **EVIDENCE** TO SUPPORT YOUR RECENT CLAIMS OF ELECTION RIGGING--?

QUIET, PIGGY!

IF YOU HAD A GOOD BRAIN LIKE **ME**, YOU'D UNDERSTAND--WHEN REPUBLICANS **LOSE**, THE ELECTION WAS **RIGGED!** WHEN THEY **WIN**, IT WAS **NOT!**

IT'S JUST **SCIENCE!**

YES, SIR, BUT CAN YOU GIVE US ANY--ER--UH--SIR?

BIFF, THE PRESIDENT APPEARS TO HAVE FALLEN **ASLEEP**. AGAIN.

HE **DID** PROMISE A WAR ON **WOKE!**

EXCUSE ME! THESE ARE MORE DISGUSTING **LIES** FROM THE **FAKE NEWS MEDIA!** THE PRESIDENT IS MERELY **RESTING HIS EYES!**

THIS INTERVIEW IS **OVER!!**

WELL, WANDA--HE **IS** A BUSY MAN WHO LOOKS AT A LOT OF THINGS!

HIS EYES MUST NEED A **LOT** OF REST!

OKAY! COMING UP NEXT: ELON MUSK INCITES ANTI-IMMIGRANT VIOLENCE IN BELFAST

SHOULD POWERFUL MEN EVER FACE EVEN A **SINGLE** CONSEQUENCE FOR THEIR RECKLESS, SOCIOPATHIC BEHAVIOR?

SPECIAL GUEST **BARI WEISS** EXPLAINS WHY THEY SHOULD **NOT!**

AND ALSO WHY **WE** WILL BOTH BE UNEMPLOYED SOON!

WAIT, WHAT?

FIRST THESE MESSAGES!

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'Access Bridge' to the Truth

Lauds and plaudits for Christian Wihtol for investigative journalism (*EW* June 11 edition) at its finest: a precise, well-researched, comprehensive expose of Kathy Jones-McCann's illegal constructions on the McKenzie River, coupled with her "super-sized" contributions to two Lane County commissioners' recent reelection campaigns for "the good of all Lane County citizens" according to McCann (insert eye-roll here).

No building permits, no septic approval, no fire-vehicle access road, no property taxes assessed and paid on structures built three years ago.

Perhaps procuring Lane County Commissioners Ryan Ceniga and David Loveall's votes in favor of McCann's land-use appeal could turn those *noes* into *yesses*. Just a thought. Sure looks like uber-rich white privilege behavior echoing the Trumpian world view: Rules and Laws Don't Apply to Me.

Also, McCann's lawyers' arguments that the back-water channel is not part of the river doesn't hold water. Kind of like calling a "war" just a "short-term excursion."

Thanks to a whistle-blowing neighbor and to Wihtol's excellent reporting, McCann's chicanery is no longer hidden from public view. We citizens of Lane County now have a veritable "access bridge" to the truth and let's hope, to justice.

Karen Myers
Eugene

Response to Embezzlement Critic

Mark Weintraub felt inclined to side with the convicted embezzler, so I felt compelled to respond for the rest of us reasonable people. We as a community almost lost a paper that we all love. It serves to weave the fabric of our culture with news and humor and does so at no cost to the reader. The *Weekly* is one of the last vestiges of original Eugene culture and to lose it would be heartbreaking. You are able to write in, have your opinion heard, and see all of the happenings through this media. How could you stand with someone

who almost took it away?

Our society and country cannot afford to play sympathy cards for those who work to tear apart our nation piece by piece, theft by theft. People who commit crimes must be brought to justice and serve as a reminder for the rest of us that there are consequences for our actions.

Weintraub jumped on his soapbox to wag his finger at *EW* for seeking justice for their losses. I invite you to house thieves. Reform them yourself. Be the change.

It is beyond disappointing that the kleptocracy we live in is so ripe with sympathizers on all sides and I can see the spiral of destruction that awaits us. When did it become OK to be a thief?

Chad Wiest
Eugene

Eugene Clean Energy Fund

There is something about gathering signatures that people view as having the plague. Signature gathering is what dozens of volunteers are doing in order to get a proposed city of Eugene measure on the

November ballot.

If passed, the Eugene Clean Energy Fund (ECEP) would place a surcharge of 2 percent on the gross profits of local big box stores that make more than \$1 billion nationally and \$500,000 locally but would exclude basic groceries, medicines, garbage, recycling, and health care services. The estimated \$15 million a year generated would be invested back into the community through four grant areas: 60 percent into renewable energy and efficiency programs for households, 25 percent into creating clean energy jobs, 10 percent into green infrastructure projects, and 5 percent into future innovations.

The ECEP would assist renters and homeowners in weatherization improvements, window replacements, ducting for heating and cooling upgrades making energy bills more affordable for utility customers. The fund would create training and education for electricians, HVAC and heat pump installers, building energy auditors, solar, battery and electric vehicle infrastructure maintenance technicians.

Most importantly, the Eugene Clean

Energy Fund would help reduce the city's carbon footprint within the community in an equitable, social and economic process while transitioning off of polluting fossil fuels and meeting the goals of the Climate Recovery Ordinance. Signing this petition may be the easiest individual effort you can do to help Eugene fight climate change and to help yourself.

Jim Neu
Eugene

Affordable?

Housing is not a crisis of affordability, but of expectation and supply. All rentals and purchases are affordable since all get voluntarily rented or sold. Wanting a castle at the price of a hovel is a personal crisis of expectation, not a failure of the market. Demanding someone else pay for it is a personal crisis of adulthood, not a failure of capitalism. Either lower desires, increase means, and/or relocate. More supply results in lower prices. Ignoring this does not alter market supply/demand reality. Private contractors are motivated to build when rents/sales less build-costs

yields better profit than investing elsewhere. Half the cost to build and operate housing is bureaucratic regulations and taxation; \$200K of the typical \$400,000 home. Some regulation is healthy and a few taxes needed, but these have become smotheringly excessive. With private demotivated, let's have public agencies build/subsidize construction. But bureaucracies feed themselves and buddies first, resulting in public efforts costing two to five times more. People pay that cost in higher taxes and lower freedoms. Only by keeping bureaucracies small can we keep their inherent negative effects minimal. Every agency is a business with a mandate to grow, taking profits out through payroll, corruption and privileges. It loves those who say "government should fix this," approve in Lane County 67 percent of tax measures, and refuse to become politically involved. Making housing expensive was caused by our agencies and they are using it to further grow in size, power and profit.

Keith Stanton
Florence

Black Girl From Eugene

Viewpoint by Ayisha Elliott

A FORK IN THE ROAD

Are we ready for the greater good?

I just read a piece I wrote over six months ago, and it could have been written yesterday. What worries me most is that someone may read it six months from now and feel exactly the same. It was about the stagnation of social movements and the failure to mount any meaningful resistance to the social deconstruction being carried out by this newest surge of our very own tyrannical regime.

I am stuck in a moment, in a feeling. Standing at a fork in the road.

When I left the States the moment the government changed, everyone asked why I didn't wait to see what would happen, fight it out. I didn't wait because I had an opportunity and a feeling. I've learned those two together don't come for no reason. The opportunity part is about my willingness to accept risk for freedom. What I didn't realize was that I'd been building it for years without knowing it.

I've had a passport since I was 13 — thank you, parental unit. I've been a single mother for most of my life — thank you for every lesson I learned about staying deep in the hustle. I've gone without what I want to get what we need, and I thank my communities for showing me, again and again, that I already have enough. A fleeting desire is not the end goal.

I know my mind bends toward freedom. That means I stay alert to imagined shackles and to real ones. Any routine that could quietly calcify into stagnation is left behind. Risk, for me, is a necessary part of every decision

I've made where I was unsure of the end but certain the alternative was finished.

The moment the many voted to hand control to the few, it was a signal. One I heard clearly.

I kept waiting for a real reckoning, some collective awakening about what we owe each other across differences. Instead, I keep hearing a desire for more of the same, just with a better tone. The task seems to be: Get the sane ones in. More affluent, cisgender, heterosexual white men take the reins from the deranged ones. The hands change. The grip doesn't. I fear we may have missed the cue.

The population is avoidant, most people have decided the known risk of compliance is safer than the unknown risk of disengaging entirely. The gas prices rattled some people loose, but not enough to recognize what we've actually agreed to: that the authority in our lives belongs to institutions, not to our communities. And that agreement is not accidental. It is structural.

The airports are owned by state and federal governments. ICE's presence there is a paid contract. The coffee shop you walk into every morning is contracted to law enforcement or some surveillance system, and if it's a chain, it answers to federal agreements. The organizations we work inside, spend inside and move through daily are not neutral structures. They are the infrastructure of a system that requires our participation to function. We are a fundamental driver of capitalism, and most of us haven't fully reckoned with what that means. Our collective power is enormous.

However, our unwillingness to use it? That's not confusion, that's a taught behavior. We have been educated into our own entrapment, conditioned to see these institutions as simply the way things are, rather than arrangements

we fund, staff, and sustain and that tells you exactly who controls our relationship to collective liberation.

So there's the fork.

I don't know if my Black mind and body can keep fighting for the ideal. I'm starting to see it differently. The ideal exists not through competition or institutional power but in spaces where people are the center of the purpose. Where the why lives in the community: In family, in each other. It isn't a dream. It's a clear statement of values, a reality even as active bombardments of insanity attempts to erase it.

I want to walk into that peace, and at the same time, I want all of us to know it's a viable option. I want us to lock hands and demand it: physically, financially, unapologetically.

The work I do keeps me emotionally regulated on this planet. I work with organizations that want to function in a human-centered way. Organizations that understand the respect and potential in diversity as a fact of operations, not a program. Organizations that know equity requires patience, intentionality and transparency, which is not inherent in the structures handed down to us. I help with that transformation. I help helpers. I hold that work as evidence that another way is possible, especially inside the systems actively falling.

I hope we can each find something, some daily act, that reminds the person next to us that they matter. Keeping the light on. Saving dinner for someone after a long night. Scooting down the bench for a stranger with a smile. These are the gestures of people who choose kindness as a practice, not a sentiment. Practiced collectively, at scale, with intention, kindness becomes something else entirely. It develops into power.

The real question we struggle to answer is: are we ready to take that risk together — for something entirely different, and for the greater good?

Ayisha Elliott is an executive leadership coach and founder of Black Girl From Eugene LLC, BlackGirlFromEugene.substack.com. Through internationally recognized coaching and organizational strategy, she helps leaders close the gap between intention and impact — deconstructing white supremacy culture within workplace culture.

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BY EW EDITORIAL STAFF

>> Feel the vibrations? Local social media star and comedian Ashe the Vibe Rater, aka Ashe Newton, stopped by *EW*'s eclectic office on Lincoln Street and nailed our vibe. She also dropped by CageFest, our Nic Cage film fest over the June 12 weekend, and vibe checked that, too. Newton's humor is on point, and she's got the Eugene scene down. Check her out on TikTok, Instagram, Facebook and more!

>> Oregon's having a temperature tantrum. June 21, the first day of summer, is just getting here, but we already had our first heat wave. On June 16, Gov. Tina Kotek declared a state of emergency due to the imminent threat of wild-fire. Temps in Eugene were in the upper 90s, and on June 15 it was over 100 degrees in Autzen Stadium, necessitating the move of some of the University of Oregon's College of Arts and Sciences graduation ceremonies to Matt Knight Arena. The *Daily Emerald* reported that the dean of the College of Design passed out while giving a talk at the 4 pm graduation ceremony on Hayward Field. We need to get rid of Donald Trump and his cronies, who have rolled back all the needed work on climate change, and the UO might reconsider the mass afternoon graduation thing and let departments have small ones again in addition to the big morning ceremony. See our news story this week on another UO consolidation effort.

>> Theater-lovers, head down to Cottage Grove before June 21 to see Cottage Theatre's production of *Sunday in the Park with George* — so says arts intern Kellan Quinn, who watched the June 14 production of the musical — with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Quinn writes, "It's always fascinating when you get to witness a small local group put on its adaptation of a Broadway staple. Many shows struggle to capture the boundless visions of Broadway greats. Cottage Theatre's production of *Sunday in the Park With George* is not one of them." Read the full review at EugeneWeekly.com.

>> Head back to the Grove June 28 for its "first-ever Community Pride Picnic," organized through the newly formed South Lane County Oregon Pride. It's 11 am to 3 pm at Coiner Park. Bring picnic blankets, lawn chairs, food and friends for a family-friendly celebration with an All-Star Drag Show at 1 pm!

>> Do you like quizzes? OK, let's rephrase that! Do you like weighing in on stuff? Great! Head over to EugeneWeekly.com and you can answer this week's survey! Where do you get your local breaking news? Want a jump on getting little surveys about stuff you hate or like? Want some extra *EW* snark in your life? Sign up for the Tuesday *EW* Extra newsletter at EugeneWeekly.com/newsletter.

>> The G7 Summit... happened. WTF. The June 15-17 summit of the seven biggest world economies highlighted Trump's protectionist "America First" agenda and took place against a backdrop of worsening climate change and heightened geopolitical tensions. Anyone else's jaw drop at his response when a *New York Times* reporter asked if he would hold anyone in his administration accountable for killing 120 schoolchildren at a girls school in Iran on the first day of the war? Trump said it was a "strange question" because it was "a long time ago," adding, "Mistakes are made; war is nasty."

NEWS

Community to Corporate

The University of Oregon is consolidating department offices and the Department of Earth Sciences says it could harm students

BY EVE WESTON

Faculty members say the University of Oregon is closing the Department of Earth Sciences office in Cascade Hall, a space they describe as a hub where undergraduate and graduate students meet with advisors, build community and manage internal administrative tasks with ease.

The office is being closed in line with a "shared services" model across the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) that some describe as impersonal and filled with unnecessary corporate bureaucracy.

Faculty such as Earth Sciences professor Marli Miller tell *Eugene Weekly* that the office closure will erode the department's sense of community and ability to support students. She says the shared services model is causing the loss of "institutional knowledge," as staff members who've been working within one specific department for years are being moved into roles where they work with several departments at once, or they've left entirely.

In 2022, the UO formally began its transition to a shared services model of business operations within CAS. The college serves approximately two-thirds of the student body, offering more than 50 undergraduate majors and 25 Ph.D. programs. The Department of Earth Sciences is home to more than 40 graduate students and 24 faculty members. As of May 1, 103 undergraduates majored in earth sciences.

The UO is facing serious budget constraints. In 2025 the university saw a \$30 million shortfall and in a May 14 message to faculty, staff and student employees, UO president Karl Scholz wrote that the university will need to cut \$65 million from the budget to avoid an annual deficit.

The shared services model consolidated department functions like administrative support, student advising and more into several centralized units, called "academic support units." Within the ASUs, staff report to an ASU director and associate director rather than their original department head.

The Department of Earth Sciences has moved ASUs three times since 2022, starting in ASU 7, then moving to ASU 8 and finally, ASU 4. Since the inception of the ASU program, at least two units have been consolidated further, bringing the number of ASUs down to six.

In an email to *Eugene Weekly* UO's director of issues management, Angela Seydel, attributing a statement to CAS, writes that the purpose of the ASU program is to "sustain and strengthen administrative support across all departments, including Earth Sciences."

Sandy Thoms, former Department of Earth Sciences business manager and graduate coordinator, left her job of eight years when the university rolled out the ASU program in 2022. She says the position the university offered her would force her to lose the portion of her job she enjoyed, which was working directly with faculty and students. Instead, the university wanted Thoms to work with five different departments rather than one.

"I didn't feel like I was going to be able to create fulfilling relationships with the people I work with anymore in

that situation," Thoms says.

A recent UO job posting for an office specialist within ASU 5 expects the employee to work with departments, programs and a research center consisting of "Anthropology; Black Studies; the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies; Cinema Studies; Creative Writing; History; Geography; Indigenous, Race, and Ethnic Studies; Latinx Studies; Native American & Indigenous Studies; Queer Studies; Theatre Arts; University Theatre; and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies."

When Thoms expressed her concerns to former CAS dean Bruce Blonigen, she was told the university would be moving forward despite staff concerns. Thoms decided to resign. She continued to work with the Oregon Hazards Lab as a grant-funded employee until she left the university completely in September 2025.

Samantha Hopkins, an Earth Sciences professor and former Earth Sciences department head, says when the university first announced its shared services transition, concerns from department staff were not being adequately addressed.

"We weren't convinced that the structures they were building were going to be able to handle the issues we anticipated like building class schedules, managing finances and things like that," she says.

She adds that when staff raised concerns about how business functions would operate without direct departmental supervision, they were told not to worry about it.

Hopkins says she's unsure if the ASU program has actually saved the university money, as before the program, Earth Sciences had three administrative staff members and even with a higher number of staff in the ASU, Hopkins says "everything takes longer," as requests now have to go through email chains instead of face-to-face interactions.

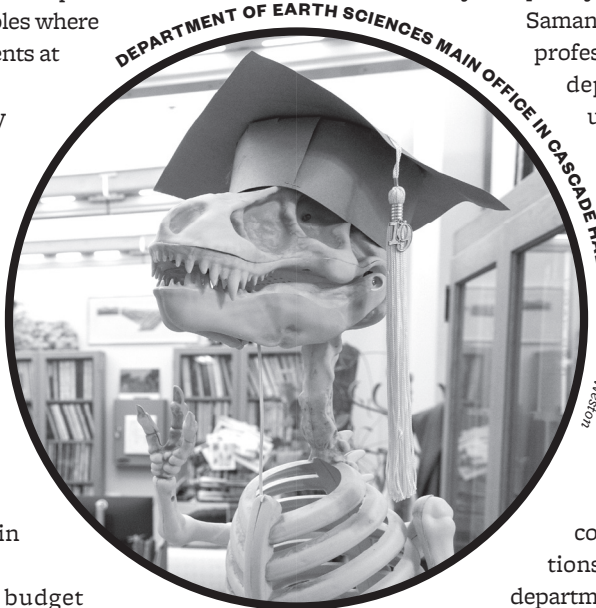
In its email to *Eugene Weekly*, the college writes that while the ASU program has resulted in some savings, "the primary goal has always been to improve service rather than reduce costs."

Miller says, "We have a pretty close-knit department and we care deeply about our undergraduates and graduates." Miller says when Earth Sciences had an office, the students "always had a place to go, and now they don't."

Instead, students will now have to go to Straub Hall, where the headquarters for ASU 4 is located. There, instead of an office focused entirely on Earth Sciences, it will share an office with psychology, linguistics and human physiology.

Mia Luscher, a senior undergraduate who has worked the front desk of the Earth Sciences office for nearly two years, says, "It's really hard to watch all these people who are really important to our department build a new community and then have that get taken away from them," she says. "The office, when I first got here, was a big part of bringing me into the department."

Derek Zurenda, a Ph.D. student in Earth Sciences, says the only communication he received regarding the changes was an email from CAS Dean Christopher Poulsen that department staff forwarded to him. Emily Ferrence, an undergraduate within the department, says she did not





Parking at a Premium

Costco wants to tear down former Office Depot building to create more parking

Costco is so desperate for more parking at its Eugene warehouse store that it is proposing a radical step: tearing down the 32-year-old vacant former Office Depot building across Chad Drive and turning it into a parking lot.

Costco bought the Office Depot site last August for \$6 million, the deed shows. In the Eugene-Springfield market, it's unheard of for a buyer to spend so much on a relatively new building and then tear it down just to make parking.

But the parking crunch at the Chad Drive Costco, plus the proximity of the former Office Depot site, and Costco's deep pockets, apparently made a magic formula. Costco in its most recent fiscal year reported an \$8 billion profit on revenues of \$275 billion.

The new lot on the former Office Depot site would have 202 spaces and would be designated — at least partly — for employees, according to plans Costco

submitted to the city earlier this month. A typical Costco warehouse store has about 250 employees. At the Eugene store, they use existing spaces near the store, in effect competing with shoppers.

Costco earlier this year didn't respond to *Eugene Weekly's* questions about its intentions for the former Office Depot property, which includes the 25,000-square-foot empty retail space and about 1.5 acres of associated parking.

But elements of Costco's plan remain unresolved. Costco is asking city planners whether the traffic lights and pedestrian crosswalk in front of the main Costco entrance on Chad Drive need to be altered as part of creating the new parking lot. The pedestrian crosswalk isn't used much now. With the new parking lot, that would change. Costco is also asking the city whether the company needs to conduct a traffic analysis to determine impacts of the proposed new parking.

As part of its tentative plan, Costco said it also wants to add four gas pump islands to the filling station on the west side of its Chad store. Each island would have two nozzles. The station now has 12 gas pump islands, totalling 24 nozzles.

Bricks \$ Mortar is a column anchored by Christian Wihtol, who worked as an editor and writer at The Register-Guard in Eugene 1990-2018, much of the time focused on real estate, economic development and business. Reach him at Christian@EugeneWeekly.com.

receive any communication from the university regarding the changes and did not know about the office closure until Zurenda sent a survey asking students what they thought of the change.

In the anonymous survey, 44 students, 10 faculty and research affiliates, and three staff members rated the importance of having a department-specific office space as 5 out of 5. One hundred percent of respondents said keeping staff aligned with the department is important and 55 of 57 said staff members go beyond basic expectations.

Amelia Cuomo, a doctoral student, says department-specific staff help navigate grant funding, class schedules and field trips. She says that losing department-specific staff could harm students by preventing her from receiving timely responses to her questions and concerns.

"Having to send an email instead of being able to walk down a flight of stairs and getting all the information you need is a lot more time consuming," she says, adding that, "having somebody there to put a friendly face to the department to answer questions from the public is enticing for people to want to come here."

"We are committed to ensuring that students and faculty continue to have access to responsive, knowledgeable support under this structure," the college writes. "The intent is to provide consistent, professional support while also creating a more supportive environment for staff — through better coverage, opportunities for training and growth, and the ability to work as part of a team."

Cuomo says she worries that without an office and department-specific office staff, graduate students like herself won't be able to get the support they need.

"It is moving from something that is more community based to something that is more transactional," Earth Sciences professor Matthew Polizzotto says. "As an educator, you want to see your students succeed and that success is aided when students feel like they're part of something."

Polizzotto says trust with university leadership has dissolved because staff members feel like they are not being heard and changes are not being explained. "It's made for a less than optimal working environment."

ACTIVIST ALERT PROTESTS, ACTIVISM AND MORE AROUND LANE COUNTY

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

"I have nothing to lose by standing up for my beliefs. So I'll go to jail." — Muhammad Ali, boxer and antiwar activist

>> Check EugeneTogetherStrong.org for protest updates. If arrested at a protest: Eugene Jail Support is 541-515-5721 and Civil Liberties Defense Center help line is 541-603-6891.

>> Pack The Court! Support community members and the CLDC's lawsuit against the General Services Administration, 9:30 am, June 18, Wayne Morse Federal Courthouse courtroom 1, 405 East Eighth Avenue, CLDC.org.

>> Postcarding to spark interest in Democrat-leaning voters for James Talarico, Texas U.S. senator, 1 pm to 3 pm, Thursday, June 18, Gryff's Pub on Bailey Hill across from Churchill High. RSVP Pandi96743@yahoo.com.

>> Postcard writing party and basic Discord training, 2 pm to 3:30pm, Saturday, June 20, Chambers Pub and Grill, 1601 Chambers Street. Volunteer organized for Indivisible Eugene-Springfield, Mobilize.us.

Ongoing at the Eugene Federal Building, 7th Avenue and Pearl Street.

>> Mondays: Veterans for Peace, Chapter 159, weekly protest, 1 pm to 2 pm.

>> Tuesdays: Protest ICE: Last Tuesday Mobilization Response, 10 am to 4 pm, last Tuesday of each month. More at Linktr.ee/PSLEugene. **Singing for Our Lives**, noon to 1 pm, the BeLonging Space and Interfaith Alliance with Migrants. **Shame on ICE**, 1 pm to 2 pm, Indivisible Eugene/Springfield. **Love and Rage Protest**, 2 pm to 5 pm.

>> Wednesdays: Showing Up for Racial Justice, noon to 1 pm, protest and whistle kit making. **Resisters Book Club**, noon to 1 pm, sidewalk of 6th Avenue. **Weekly Vigils Against the Genocide in Gaza and Against ICE**, 3:30 pm to 6 pm, Planet Versus Pentagon.

>> Thursdays: Signs of Fascism Protest, 10 am to noon. Signs provided, wear black. Indivisible.

>> Fridays: Raging Grannies, noon to 2 pm. **50501 Weekly Protest**, 2 pm to 4 pm, bearing witness to ICE violence.

>> Sundays: SLUG Queens Resist! and Eugene Inflatables Protest, 1 pm to 3 pm.

Ongoing events

>> Mondays: Resist! Persist! Repeat! Weekly Protest, 10 am to 11 am, corners of 29th and Willamette Street and 11 am to noon, corner of Coburg and Harlow roads. **Make Whistle Kits**, 10 am to 1 pm, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street.

Produce and distribute kits to inform and educate on ICE. You can also make kits at home; distribute and donate. Supplies provided. For more info, whistles2026@gmail.com.

>> Tuesdays-Sundays: Make protest signs at MECCA, 11 am to 6 pm, up to four signs with materials provided by Eugene Message Makers at Community Table Space, \$5-\$10 sug. don. to MECCA.

>> Fridays: Stop the Cuts, noon, Eugene Veterans Clinic, 3355 Chad Drive. **Stand in Solidarity with Food Not Bombs Feeding the Community**, 4 pm Fridays, downtown Park Blocks, 8th and Oak, Instagram.com/FoodnotBombs_Eugene. **We the People Party**, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm every second Friday of the month at Tall Firs Cafe in Springfield to reestablish government of, by and for the people.

Saturdays: Peaceful protest, noon to 1, Coburg City Hall, 91136 N. Willamette Street, Coburg, rain or shine, Indivisible Coburg.

>> Second Sundays: Springfield Community of Peace: Seeking Peace in the Middle East, 3 pm, Ebbert Methodist Church, 532 C Street, Springfield. Discussion and action.

Email Editor@EugeneWeekly.com with "Activist Alert" in the subject line to add protests to this listing, and subscribe to the Activist Alert newsletter at EugeneWeekly.com/newsletter to get this information in your inbox on Wednesdays!

Birding With Pride

LCC alum founded Lane County Queer Birders to create an accessible outdoor space where LGBTQIA+ people and allies can connect **BY KAT TABOR**

Birds of a feather flock together, and when Amy Sherman founded Lane County Queer Birders, she hoped birdwatching could help LGBTQIA+ people and their allies do the same.

For Sherman, birding isn't about expensive binoculars, rare species checklists or knowing every bird call in the forest. It's about paying attention and living intentionally.

"If you are noticing birds, you are a birder," she says.

Sherman founded the group following the 2024 election while searching for ways to strengthen community connections during a time she views as frightening and uncertain. What began as a handful of informal bird walks quickly evolved into a regular gathering of birders, nature enthusiasts and community members from across Lane County.

"In kind of the darkest of times, what makes most people feel better is their connections," Sherman says.

The organization was also born out of Sherman's desire to find more queer community while finishing her bachelor's degree. She wanted to create a space where LGBTQIA+ people could spend time outdoors together in an environment that felt welcoming, affirming and accessible to newcomers.

A Lane Community College alum, Sherman traces the group's roots to a Birds of Oregon class taught by biology instructor Colin Phifer. After moving to Eugene in 2021, she enrolled at LCC, eventually earning an associate's degree before transferring

to Portland State University, where she completed a bachelor's degree in liberal studies with a minor in women's studies.

She credits Phifer with helping deepen her knowledge of birds while encouraging her to share that passion with others.

"I would not have started the birding group if it was not for Colin Phifer at LCC," Sherman says. "It's all his fault." Sherman laughs before adding that she means it "fondly with lots of love."

She credits Phifer with helping deepen her knowledge of birds while encouraging her to share that passion with others.

Phifer, however, gives Sherman the credit.

"She has since gone on and done great things," Phifer says. "It was always Amy."

"I was but a small part in her growth as a birder," Phifer says. "The fact that she has just continued to grow and nurture and is making a space far beyond whatever I could do. She's the change I want to see in the world."

Phifer says students in his Birds of Oregon class read materials from Birdability, a nonprofit that promotes accessibility and inclusion in birding. The organization works to ensure birding is welcoming for people with mobility challenges, blindness or low vision, chronic illness, developmental disabilities, mental illness and other health concerns.

"If you build your class from a perspective of everyone here should be here, then people start to see themselves as belonging in those spaces," Phifer says.

Today, Lane County Queer Birders welcomes participants regardless of experience level. Sherman intentionally chooses accessible locations and emphasizes curiosity over expertise. Participants don't need expensive equipment or extensive knowledge to join a walk.



That welcoming philosophy mirrors one Phifer emphasizes in his classroom. The group's welcoming approach has attracted everyone from experienced birders to complete beginners. One participant even brought their grandmother, she says.

For Sherman, birding offers something increasingly rare in a fast-paced world.

"It's rare to find a space that asks you to be very present," she says. "You are connecting with people, you're connecting with nature."

She says birding encourages participants to slow down, observe their surroundings and spend time with others outside the pressures of daily life.

Although Lane County Queer Birders grew from concerns about the future, Sherman says the organization is ultimately focused on peace rather than fear.

"While it was born from that, this is a joyful space," she says.

Instead of dwelling on uncertainty, participants gather to explore local parks, share observations and enjoy being outdoors together.

Whether participants arrive as experienced birders or complete beginners, Sherman hopes they leave feeling a little more connected — to nature, to each other and to the community they are building together.

Lane County Queer Birders hosts a free bird walk monthly; upcoming dates to be determined. All ages, experience levels and abilities are welcome. Learn more at LaneCountyQueerBirders.com.

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Queering the Outdoors

Eugene Pride connects LGBTQIA+ community members with outdoor resources

BY ADDISON OTTO

Spending time in nature regulates the nervous system, according to Qing Li, the world's leading forest medicine expert. For transgender individuals, who face higher rates of mental distress, outdoor experiences can be healing, but there's often barriers they need addressed. LGBTQIA+ community members can find resources to connect with nature at Eugene Pride June 27 at Lane Events Center.

"The trees don't care what gender you are," says Marley Yasuhara, development and outreach director for local trans resource nonprofit TransPonder. "Our relationship with nature can be a reminder that we have purpose in the world."

Social barriers often inhibit trans peoples' access to the outdoors. Showing up to generic outdoor educational

workshops might expose a trans person to misgendering or harassment if the organizer isn't queer-friendly or educated on inclusivity. Actually getting outdoors can also feel unsafe, especially when traveling alone and into rural, often conservative, wild areas that disagree with trans existence.

When organizations like Cascadia Wildlands, Cascades Raptor Center and Oregon Wild make efforts to include trans community members through events like Pride, they create a safe space for individuals to discuss identity-specific concerns and receive support so they can get outside. Trans Wild, a partnership between Cascadia Wildlands, Mount Pisgah Arboretum and TransPonder, holds a free Forest Frolic event annually in April to connect transgender people with resources supporting their access to the outdoors and engagement with nature.

Madeline Cowen, field and organizing

manager for Cascadia Wildlands, brings all kinds of people — young and old, queer and cisgender-heterosexual — into public forests for field-checking excursions. Volunteers observe the environment to connect

with the land and advocate for it to be protected against timber sales. Volunteers may go out for the day or camp overnight to conduct field-checks; this group element adds a level of safety many trans people need.

"We tend to go to areas where there's concentrated folks who are more right-wing and more likely to be pretty antagonistic towards queer and trans people," Cowen says. "My job is, when we're going out to these places, is in part to keep everybody safe."

In this political climate that increasingly targets and dehumanizes marginalized communities, trans people face higher rates of isolation and suicide risk compared to their cisgender counterparts, according to The Trevor Project. Intentionally connecting with nature is a simple way to improve

mental health and feelings of connection.

"Anything that trans people do to be more visible in a very 'We're just humans' kind of way is really important right now," Yasuhara said. "A reminder to folks who maybe don't have a lot of experience interacting with trans folks that transness is not the only thing that exists within us."

For Bug Wages, a transsexual Eugenean, nature itself affirms their identity because it is "so gay." Wages has a fond interest in queer ecology, an emerging field that recognizes humans as one part of an ecosystem.

Queer ecology highlights that many plants and animals have diverse sexual characteristics and behaviors that fall outside cisgender-heterosexism. Some plants, like Oregon goldthread, are able to change their gender year-to-year in response to their environment.

"It is really important for us to have this really nuanced, complex understanding of plants and other animals," Wages says. "Because as humans, we are also just critters."

Eugene Pride is from 11 am to 7 pm Saturday, June 27, at Lane Events Center. Tickets are sliding-scale from \$1 to \$20 on Eventeny. Pride is still looking for volunteers to run the event; sign up and learn more at EugenePride.org.



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ATTENDEES ENJOY A DJ SET AT LAST YEAR'S EUGENE PRIDE FESTIVAL.

Photo by Marcus Holloway @m5n5d

Enjoy drag performances, queer choirs and more in celebration of Pride Month

BY ELLA POOR

According to Nick West, Eugene Pride's president and event coordinator, "Pride shouldn't only be accessible to organizations with big pocketbooks." He says 2026 Eugene Pride Festival gave out more than 50 discounted or free spaces to smaller vendors. The festival is bigger than ever with queer choirs, comedians, more than 250 vendors, including nonprofits and community organizations, local businesses, artists and crafters and more than 20 food vendors.

Pride begins 9 am Saturday, June 27, with a downtown rally in Kesey Square featuring speakers from the community. After the rally, participants will march to the Lane Events Center, where the festival runs from 11 am to 7 pm.

Entertainment will include performances from local drag queens The Glamazons, a routine from Bounce Gymnastics, dancers, theater troupes, poets, comedians and queer choirs. The main stage is located in the event center's performance hall, the community stage in the exhibit hall and a DJ stage in the food court that is also designated for karaoke and trivia.

At 6 pm, the Eugene Pride's second annual afterparty will begin on site. Local

queer DJ Enriquedamnit headlines.

Queer Choir will be the first performance of the day on the main stage. Elias Wolf, a singer-songwriter and the artistic director and conductor of the choir, says Queer Choir will be singing mostly covers, including songs by queer musician Sam Smith.

Wolf also programs the choir's original songs and songs by indie artists such as Laura Jane Grace, a trans-femme punk artist, queer singer-songwriter Be Steadwell and Carsie Blanton, a Eugene-based artist.

Wolf enjoys performing at Pride because it brings the queer community together. "Pride Fest is so special because you get so many of us in one place," Wolf says. "You really get to witness people fully expressing their queerness without any kind of apology."

In addition to Queer Choir, the Eugene Gay Men's Choir and the Soromundi Lesbian Chorus will be singing at Eugene Pride. "It's always really, really special to see the other LGBTQ choirs that are in Eugene," Wolf says.

Queer Choir will also be performing an all ages Pride Kickoff show and dance party at WOW Hall on Friday, June 26 at 7:30 pm with queer acapella group Homophonic and DJ and drag artist DJ Lyta Blunt.

Local comedian and current SLUG queen Jen Jay, aka Hilaria Gastrognome, will be performing a comedy set at Pride. Jay is also on Eugene Pride's entertainment committee and books performers for the festival.

Jay describes her comedy as relatable. "I like to write jokes that are smart, weird comedy about grief and bodies and relationships and subcultures and strange little

rituals that make people human," she says.

Jay wants attendees to experience joy through her comedy. "We need joy, we need laughter," she says. "Being able to connect with the community and share a laugh, I am very excited to do that."

In addition to entertainment from local performers, the festival will include what West dubs a "regulation station," where people can go to relax during the lively festival, and a sober circle with recovery nonprofits.

Numerous local nonprofits will have booths, such as Queer Eugene, which will be organizing a clothing exchange, HIV Alliance, which will be conducting free HIV testing, Transponder and more.

To encourage alternative forms of transportation, LTD provides free bus passes to the Lane Events Center the day of the festival through a code on its website. There will also be a free bike valet for those that choose to bike to Pride.

West emphasizes that the Pride Festival couldn't happen without the work of volunteers. The festival is volunteer run, and more volunteers are currently needed to help out on the day of the festival. The volunteer application is open on Eugene Pride's website, and closes two days before the festival begins.

The Eugene Pride Festival is an all ages event open to everyone. "Who's welcome here? Anybody," West says. "We want everyone to feel welcome."

Eugene Pride is Saturday, June 27. The Pride Rally starts at 9 am at Kesey Square, 10 East Broadway, and the Pride Festival begins at 11 am at the Lane Events Center, 796 West 13th Avenue. The Eugene Pride Festival goes until 7 pm with an onsite afterparty that starts at 6 pm. Tickets start at \$1 and are available at EugenePride.org/festival-26.



QUEER CREATIVE BLOOM 2025.
Photo provided by Creative Queer Collective

JUNE 21

In 2025, the first annual **Queer Creative Bloom** hit the Farmers Market Pavilion, meant as a one-time fundraising event for its organizers, the Creative Queer Collective. By popular request, Creative Queer Collective is putting on Queer Bloom again. It will be held in the Farmer's Market Pavilion and Plaza, with a stage for live performances inside, along with a clothing swap, activities, crafts and snacks. Outside, there will be more crafts and activities along with queer resources tabling and vendors selling whatever they are passionate about, including pottery, glassware, home goods, art prints and tarot readings. "I identify as a brown queer person, and I feel like I don't get to see a lot of folks who look like me specifically in Eugene," says Creative Queer Collective volunteer director Nimisha Jain. Last year's event was "really special for me," Jain says, because her parents flew in from out of town. "There's a lot of education and learning they've had to do around queerness, so it was really sweet to see them really involved," she says. "This is why our events are open to everyone. It's a space for people to ask questions and learn and truly be in community." Proceeds go toward Creative Queer Collective funding further accessible and creative events for Eugene's queer community. — *Will Decker*

Queer Creative Bloom is 1 pm to 6 pm Sunday, June 21, at the Farmer's Market Pavilion and Plaza, 85 East 8th Avenue. Free. For more information visit CreativeQueerCollective.org.

June 18

THURSDAY

Civics

Planning Commission Mtg., 5-7pm, 13 S. 1st St., Creswell.

Comedy

Slay Hazel, 9:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, Starlight Lounge, 830 Olive St.

Dance

Latin Dance Night w/ DJ Vito, 7-10pm today, Thurs., June 25, Claim 52 Brewing, 232 Lincoln St. \$5.

Film

Jiro Dreams of Sushi (2011), 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Mr. Nobody Against Putin (2026), 6:30-8:30pm, Art House, 492 E. 13th Ave. \$9-12.

Food & Drink

Long Live the Light: Light Lager Fest, 11:30am today-Sun., PLAY, 232 W. 5th Ave.

Thursday Beer Tasting, 6-8pm today, Thurs., June 25, Bier Stein Bottleshop & Pub, 1591 Willamette.

Gatherings

LGBTQ+ SMART Recovery Group, 4:30-6pm today, Thurs., June 25, Odyssey Community Counseling, 2149 Centennial Plaza.

Grief Group, 5-6:30pm, S. Lane Mental Health, 1345 Birch Ave.

Business After Hours, 5:30-7pm, Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, Blink Charging, 700 E. Gibbs Ave.

Suicide Prevention Meditation, 6:30pm today, Thurs., June

25, Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd.

Kids

Pre-K Storytime, 10-10:30am today, Thurs., June 25, Creswell Library, 64 W. Oregon Ave.

Family Storytime, 10:15am today, Thurs., June 25, Petersen Barn Community Ctr., 870 Berntzen Rd.

Fossil Fun, 3:30-4:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, Creswell Library, 64 W. Oregon Ave.

Sensory Storytime, 4:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Learning

Hablemos Español: Spanish Conversation, 4pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Cottage Grove Info Night, 5:30-7pm, Circle of Friends, email liliang@casa-lane.org for address.

LGBT

The Lorax Manner Benefit Show, 7:30-11pm, 1648 Alder St. \$12.51.

Nightlife

Bingo, 6-7:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, Zest, 999 Willamette. FREE-\$1.

Twisted Duck Bingo, 7-9pm today, Thurs., June 25, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Bingo Beer Night, 8pm today, Thurs., June 25, Cornucopia, 207 E. 5th Ave.

Karaoke w/ Adam, 8pm today, Thurs., June 25, Happy Hours, 645 River Rd. ste. 3288.

Karaoke, 8:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Outdoor Recreation

Gentle Chair Yoga w/ Clark Stacer, noon-1pm today, Tue., Thurs., June 25, St. Thomas Episcopal Fellowship Hall, 1465 Coburg Rd. FREE-\$8.

Native Plant Garden Work Party, 1-4pm today, Thurs., June 25, Hendricks Parks, 2200 Summit Ave.

Whilamut River Walk & Nature Immersion, 2-3:30pm today, Wed., Thurs., June 25, Alton Baker Park, 100 Day Island Rd. \$24.95.

Willamette Rose Urban Forest Bath & River Walk, 4:30-6pm today, Wed., Thurs., June 25, Maurie Jacobs Park, Fir Ln. \$33.80.

Emerald City Trail Series, 6:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, Buford Park N. Trailhead, 34901 Frank Parrish Rd. \$34.09.

Free Bikes 4 Kidz Volunteer Work Party, 6:30-8:30pm today, Thurs., June 25, FB4K Workshop Site, 180 W. 8th Ave.

Spectator Sports

Nike Outdoor Nationals, 10am today-Mon., Hayward Field, 1530 Agate St. \$36.

Theater

Midsummer Night's Dream, 6pm today, Fri., Owen Rose Garden 300 N. Jefferson St.

The Mousetrap, 7-9:20pm today, Fri., Thurs., June 25, 2pm Sat., 3pm Sun., Generations Theater Co., 1420 Kalmia St., Junction City. \$11-18.

Sunday in the Park w/ George, 7:30pm, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr. \$20-32.

Visual Arts

Paint w/ Cats, 5:30pm, Eugene Spfd. Cat Lounge, 537 W. Centennial Blvd. \$35.

Zine Club, 5:30-6:30pm, Books w/ Pictures, 296 E. 5th Ave. ste. 224.

Body Positive Figure Drawing, 6-8pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$5-15.

June 19

FRIDAY

Comedy

Zoltan Kaszas, 8:30pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$43.

Gatherings

Eugene Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome & Hypermobility Support Group, 4-6pm, email eugenewildstripes@zohomail.com for address.

A Gathering of Creatives, 7-9pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave.

Learning

Gardening w/ Modern Roses, 9am-noon, Owen Rose Garden, 300 N. Jefferson.

Drop-In Tech Help, 10:30-11:30am, Spfd. Public Library, 225 5th St.

Literary Arts

Song & Poetry Open Mic ft. Julian Kenneth, 6:30-9:30pm, Quackenbush Bldg., 160 E. Broadway. FREE-\$15.

Markets & Shopping

Pop-Up Market, 1-6pm, Willamette Manor Assisted Living, 176 W. C St.

Nightlife

Trivia, 7pm, The Barn Light, 924 Willamette.

Karaoke, 8:30pm, Highlands Brew Pub, 390 E. 30th St.

Outdoors/Recreation

Summer Solstice Cemetery Tour, 5-7pm, Laurel Grove Cemetery, Judkins Rd.

Fun Friday Goat Yoga, 6-8pm, No Regrets Farm & Sanctuary, 26641 Bellfountain Rd. \$25

Religion & Spirituality

Recovery Dharma Buddhist Recovery Mtg., 10-11am, Jesco Club, 340 Blair Blvd.

Spectator Sports

USA v AUS, noon, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

Theater

Chicago, 7:30-10pm today, Sat., 2pm Sun., Actors Cabaret, 996 Willamette. \$21-64.

Intimate Apparel, 7:30pm today, Sat., 2pm Sun., The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St.

Visual Arts

DIY Candle Making, noon-5pm today, Sat., Farm Kitchen Candle Co., 91118 N. Harrison St. Ste 102. \$39.

Piecing It Together: A Regional Collage Exhibit, 5-7pm, Maude Kerns Art Ctr., 1910 E. 15th Ave.

June 20

SATURDAY

Comedy

Seriously Unserious Stand-Up Comedy, 7:30pm, Opal Ctr. for Arts & Education, 513 E. Main St.

Zoltan Kaszas, 8:30pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$43.

Dance

Emerald Valley Dancers, 6:30-10:30pm, Emerald Square Dance Ctr., 2095 Yolanda Ave., Spfd.

WAW Dance, 6:30-10:30pm, Emerald Square Dance Ctr.

Drag Show

All Ages Drag Bingo, 5pm, The Sparrow & Serpent Pub, 211 Washington St. \$1-5.

ISCEE Closet Ball 2026, 5pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette. \$10.

Festivals & Fairs

Trails of Time: An Oregon Living History Festival, 9:30am-4:30pm, Dorris Ranch, 205 Dorris St.

World Refugee Day, noon-4pm, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St.

Autism Rocks, 2-4pm, Kesey Square, 10 E. Broadway.

Friendly St. Block Party, 2-8pm, 2760 Friendly St.

Father's Day Car Show, 2:30-4pm, Churchill Estates Retirement Community, 3800 Westleigh St.

Re-Claim Sustainable Fashion Show, 7-9pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$55.20-129.89.

Film

Beverage Hunters: Behind The Brew Premier Showing, 4-8pm, Plank Town Brewing Co., 346 Main St., Spfd.

Food & Drink

The Sugar Beets Dinner, 6pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$19.75-29.75.

Gatherings

Overeaters Anonymous, 9:30-10:30am, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

Open House, 10am, River Rd. Santa Clara Volunteer Library, 105 Oakleigh Ln.

Health & Wellness

Walk w/ A Doc, 9-10am, Greenway Bridge, 293 Valley River Ctr.

Good4u Nutrition on a Budget w/Yaakov Levine, FNTP, 11am-noon, Natural Grocers, 201 Coburg Rd.

Kids

Baby & Toddler Storytime, 10:15am, Bethel Branch Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Family Storytime, 10:30am, Awbrey Park, River Road & Spring Creek Dr.

Kids' Book Club!, 2pm, Books w/ Pictures, 296 E. 5th Ave. ste. 224.

Bee Amazed: Family Science Fun, 3pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Family Fun w/ LEGO, 3-5pm, Bethel Branch of Eugene Public Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd.

Learning

Hands Only CPR & AED Course, 9-10:30am, Oregon CPR, 657 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

LGBT

Pride in Motion, 10:30am-1pm, Warrior Group Fitness Studio, 199 E. 5th Ave. ste. 5. \$25.

EGMC Presents: OUTLOUD!, 7:30-9:30pm, First United Methodist Church of Eugene, 1376 Olive St. \$10-25.

Markets & Shopping

The Mother of All Yardsales, 9am-4pm today, Sun., 2190 Garfield St.

Saturday Farmers Market, 9am-2pm, Farmers Market Pavilion, 85 E. 8th Ave.

Creswell Farm to Table, 10am-2pm, Harry Holt Park, 127 N. 4th St.

Saturday Market, 10am-4pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave.

eBike Expo, 11am-3pm, Campbell Community Ctr., 155 High St.

Pop-Up Market, 11am-6pm, Willamette Manor Assisted Living, 176 W. C St.

Nightlife

Bingo, 5:30pm, American Legion, 826 W. Main St., Cottage Grove.

Music Bingo, 7-10pm, Local Losers Lounge, 85944 OR-99 S.

Twisted Duck Bingo, 7-9pm, Twisted Duck Pub, 529 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Karaoke, 9pm, Pour House Tavern, 444 N. 42nd St.

Outdoors/Recreation

Food Loops 2-Mile Run & Walk, 9-11am, Junction City Local Aid, 210 E. 6th Ave. \$20.

Yoga, 10am, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave.

Butterfly Field Trip, 1-3pm, Living Earth Nature Sanctuary, address provided upon registration.

Walking Tour, 1-2:30pm, Eugene Masonic Cemetery, 2575 University St.

CALENDAR

Mokwheel Saturday Night Group Rides, 6-9pm, Mok-wheel Plus, 187 E. Broadway.

Religion & Spirituality

Insight Meditation & Dharma Reflections & Discussion, 9:30-11am, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave.

Shamanic Drumming, 6pm, Ctr. for Spiritual Living, 390 Vernal St. \$10-20

Divination Workshop, 6:30-8:30pm, Shelton McMurphey Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Theater

The Ultimate Magic Show, 1-3pm, Wildish Community Theater, 630 Main St. \$15-20.

Trek Theater: Voyager Counterpoint, 2-3pm, The Lamb Cottage, Skinner Butte Park, 130 Cheshire Ave.

Midsummer Night's Dream, 6pm today, Sun., Island Park 200 W. B St., Spfd.

Visual Arts

Backwoods Art Tour, 10am-4pm, Various locations in Monroe, Alpine, & Bellfountain, 25184 Webster Ave.

Dog Paint Night, 5-7pm, The Laundromutt Event Ctr., 2787 Olympic St. \$35.

June 21 SUNDAY

Comedy

Zoltan Kaszas, 6pm, Olsen Run Comedy Club, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$43.

Dance

Eugene Community Ecstatic Dance, 11am, River Banks, 118 Merry Ln.

Ballroom Dance & Lesson, 5:30-8pm, Upstairs ballroom at the Veteran's Memorial Bldg., 1626 Wil-lamette. \$4-8.

Dances from Greece, Turkey & Bulgaria, 7:15-9:30pm, Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1626 Willamette. \$7.

Wrestlesque: The Rematch, 8-11pm, John Henry's, 881 Willamette. \$10.

Gatherings

Monthly Cycle Café, 3:30-5pm, Perugino Coffee House, 767 Willamette. Ste 102.

Kids

Family Fun w/ Yarn, 1-4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Literary Arts

Poetry in the Round, 12:30-2pm, Coburg Commons Bookstore, 91193 N. Wil-lamette.

LGBT

Queer Creative Bloom, 1-6pm, Farmers Market Pavilion & Plaza, 85 E. 8th Ave.

Spin Cycle Squares, 4-6:30pm, Emerald Square Dance Ctr.

Daddy's Here: Sapphic Speed Dating, 7pm, The Hybrid, 941 W. 3rd Ave. \$15.

Literary Arts

Writing Time, 6:30-9pm, Wordcrafters Studio, 436 Charnelton St. \$5.

Markets & Shopping

Farmers Market, 9am-2pm, Spfd. Public Library, 225 5th St.,

Whiteaker Community Market, 10am-3pm, Whiteaker Community Market, 1180 W. 4th Ave.

Nightlife

Family Bingo w/ Ty Connor, 5:30-7pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.,

Quality Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 7-9pm, Blairally, 245 Blair Blvd.

Quality Trivia w/ Stephen, 8pm, Houndstooth Public House, 1795 W. 6th Ave.

Outdoors/Recreation

Trauma-Informed Yoga for Veterans, 9:30-10:30am, Sheldon Community Ctr., 2445 Willakenzie Rd.

Willamette Wonderland & Solstice, 1-6pm, Fall Creek Reservoir, N. Shore Recreation Area. \$60.54.

Avatar: Legends RPG, 2-6pm, Books w/ Pictures, 296 E. 5th Ave. ste. 224. \$15.

Religion & Spirituality

Sunday Service, 10:30am-12:30pm, Chapel of Praise, 4020 Marshall Ave.

Sunday Morning Soul Connection, 10:45am-noon, EVCSL The Light House, 458 Blair Blvd.

Nondual Teachings from the Great Spiritual Traditions, 11am-12:45pm, The Ctr. for Sacred Sciences, 5440 Saratoga St.

Tarot Readings w/ Echo, 1-5pm, Bree's Way Gift Shop, 1231 Alder St. \$10-50.

Theater

Trek Theater: Voyager Counterpoint, 2-3pm, The Lamb Cottage in Skinner Butte Park, 130 Cheshire Ave.

June 22 MONDAY

Civics

Eugene City Council Wk. Session, 5:30pm, City Hall, 500 E. 4th Ave. or visit Eugene-Or.gov for link.

City Council Wk. Session, 6-8pm, 13 S. 1st St., Creswell.

Eugene City Council Mtg., 7:30pm, City Hall, 500 E. 4th Ave. or visit Eugene-Or.gov for link.

Comedy

Open Mic Comedy, 7:30pm, Slice, 325 Blair Blvd,

Dance

Emerald Square Dance Ctr., 6:30pm, Christina's Twirling Twos. \$5

Weekly W. Coast Swing Dancing, 7-10:30pm, Veteran's Memorial Bldg., 1626 Wil-lamette. \$5-10.

Randy Dibble SQ Lessons, 7:15-9:15pm, Emerald Square Dance Ctr., 2095 Yolanda Ave., Spfd.

Gatherings

Afternoon Chess, 4-6pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St. ste. 4606,

Sit 'n' Stitch, 6-8pm, Shelton McMurphey Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Peer Connection Support Group, 6-7:30pm, Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Rd.

NAMI Family-to-Family, 6:30-9pm, NAMI Lane County, 129 9th St.,

Health & Wellness

Ultimate Athlete, 6:30-7:30am, Zenith Performance & Wellness, 160 S. Park St. \$15-20.

Kids

Angelina Ballerina, 9am-noon today-Fri., June 26, Oregon Ballet Academy, 3400 W. 11th Ave. \$200.

Bicycle Exploration Camp, 9am-1pm today-Fri., June 26, Shift Community Cycles, 811 W. 6th Ave. \$150-200.

Ultimate Frisbee Middle School Camp, 9am-3pm today-Fri., June 26, Century Fields, 500 E. 24th Ave. \$50-350.

Nightlife

Quality Trivia, 6-8pm, Oak-shire Brewing, 207 Madison St.

Bingo, 6:30pm, Pour House Tavern, 444 N. 42nd St.

Bingo, 6:30pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th Ave.

Play Cribbage, 6:30-8:30pm, The Annex, 1236 Kincaid St. \$3.

Trivia w/ Geo, 6:30-8:30pm, PublicHouse, 418 A St. ste. 4606.

Trivia, 7pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th Ave.

Outdoors/Recreation

Taiji & Mobility Classes, 9-10am, Denfinity Dance Studio, 1325 Jefferson St. \$15-20.

Religion & Spirituality

Mindful Integration & Breathwork w/ PSILO Temple, 7-9pm, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 1300 Pearl St.

June 23 TUESDAY

Civics

Board of Commissioners Mtg., 9am, Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th Ave. or visit LaneCountyOr.gov for link.

Lane Library District Board Mtg., 6-7:30pm, Creswell Library, 64 W. Oregon Ave.

Neighborhood Exploration Council, 7-9pm, The Eugene Mission, 1542 W. 1st Ave.

Comedy

Open Mic Comedy w/ Chaz, 7-10pm, Whirled Pies, 199 W. 8th Ave.

Food & Drink

Spfd. Greeters: Business Before Hours, 6:30-8:30am, Gateway Grill, 3198 Gateway St. \$20.

Gatherings

Hult Ctr. Artist Mixer, 5pm, Hult Ctr.

Health & Wellness

1:1 Breathing for Health coaching session, 1-2pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave. Bldg. B

Live Lifestyle Medicine Free: Food As Medicine Class Series, 7-8:30pm, First Christian Church of Spfd., 395 W. Centennial Blvd., Spfd.

Kids

Baby Storytime, 9:45pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

EUGENE EMERALDS

UPCOMING PROMOS!

6/23 - PRINCESS NIGHT
6/24 - WIN A CAR FOR A \$1
6/25 - COUNTRY NIGHT (DOUBLEHEADER)
6/26 - FIREWORKS FRIDAY
6/28 - KIDSPORTS SUNDAY

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Year Anniversary

JUNE 20TH
10AM - 6PM

946 WILLAMETTE STREET

Free Samples

Discounts Giveaways

Double Loyalty Points
ALL DAY

Trivia, 7pm, Pour House Tavern, 444 N. 42nd St.

Lane County Hearings Official
Mtg., 9:30am, Lane County
Customer Service Ctr.

Baby Connection, 11am-noon,
Parenting Now, 86 Centen-
nial Lp.



The 2026 Juneteenth Gathering is 3 pm to 8 pm Friday, June 19, at Farmers Market Pavilion and Plaza, 85 East 8th Avenue. Free. The Rhythm and Resilience Juneteenth Celebration is noon to 6 pm Friday, June 19, at Riverfront Park, 701 East 8th Avenue. Free.

GOVERNMENT WARNING: Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. For use only by adults twenty-one years of age and older. Keep out of reach of children.

CALENDAR

Eugene Go Club, 5:30-9pm, The Wheel Apizza Pub, 390 Lincoln St.

Oveareaters Anonymous, 6-7:30pm, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 3925 Hilyard St.

Rainbow Game Night, 6-8pm, Shelton McMurphey Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Men's Talking Circle: Native American Way, 7-9pm, Star Gate Bldg., 1374 Willamette.

Health & Wellness

Balance for Life: 55-plus Mindful Fitness, 10-11am, Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. FREE-\$20.

Breathing for Health & Stress & Anxiety Relief, 1:30-2:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 631 E. 19th Ave.

Ultimate Athlete, 6:30-7:30am, Zenith Performance & Wellness, 160 S. Park St. \$15-20.

Kids

Toddler Storytime, 9:45am, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Mount Pisgah Arboretum Summer Club, 10am-1pm, Mount Pisgah Arboretum, 34901 Frank Parrish Rd. FREE-\$30.

Dragon Puppet Theater Presents: Johnny Appleseed, 10:30-11:30am, Harry Holt Memorial Park, 390 B St.

Crafting Extravaganza, 4:30pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Learning

Tech Help, 11am, Sheldon Branch Eugene Public Library, 1566 Coburg Rd.

Nightlife

Wednesday Night Cribbage, 5pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette.

Play Cribbage, 6:30-8:30pm, The Bier Stein, 1591 Willamette. \$5.

Bingo w/ Ty Connor, 7pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave.

Get in the Game Show, 7-9pm, Centennial Steak House & Sports Bar, 1300 Mohawk Blvd.

Karaoke, 8pm, Pour House Tavern, 444 N. 42nd St.

Outdoors/Recreation

Freebie Yoga for All, noon-12:45pm, Gerlinger Hall, 1585 E. 13th Ave.

Basic Bike Maintenance, 6-7:30pm, Shift Community Cycles, 811 W. 6th Ave.

Co-Ed Dodgeball Pick-Up, 6-8pm, Bob Keefer Ctr., 250 S. 32nd St.

Buy A Car For \$1: Eugene Emeralds, 6:35pm, PK Park, 2800 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. \$10-23.

Visual Arts

Opening Reception: Asian Celebration Art Exhibition, 5:30-7:30pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Ln.

Paint & Sip w/ Sierra, 6pm, PLAY, 232 W. 5th Ave. \$40.

Figure Art Session, 6:15-9pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. \$8.

June 25 THURSDAY

Food & Drink

Dinner Before, 6pm, The Shedd, 868 High St. \$19.75-29.75.

Gatherings

Breakfast at the Bike Bridges, 7-9am, Peter DeFazio Bridge, 270 Ferry St.

Learning

Duck Talks, 12:30pm, Drop Bear Brewery, 2690 Willamette.

Beat the Heat & Smoke Workshop, 6-8pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

How Braver Angels Began & Keeping the Vision Alive, 6-8pm, Bethesda Lutheran Church, 4445 Royal Ave.

LGBT

Lace & Literature Sapphic Book Club, 6:30-8:30pm, Shelton McMurphey-Johnson House, 303 Willamette.

Literary Arts

Dr. Jennifer Lincoln, 6:30-8pm, Hodgepodge Books & Taproom, 158 E. 14th Ave.

Poetry Open Mic Night, 7pm, Hult Ctr.

Nightlife

Cat Bingo, 5:30-7pm, Eugene Spfd. Cat Lounge, 537 W. Centennial Blvd. \$25.

Religion & Spirituality

Breathwork w/ Gong Sound Healing, 7-8:15pm, Graduate by Hilton Eugene, 66 E. 6th Ave. \$55.

Spectator Sports

Country Night: Double Header Eugene Emeralds, 5:05pm, PK Park, 2800 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. \$5-9.

Visual Arts

Asian Celebration Art Exhibition, 11am-5pm, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Ln. FREE-\$5.

Decorate a Tote Bag w/ Fruit Stamps, 6pm, Downtown Eugene Public Library.

Creator Meetup, 6-7pm, Books w/ Pictures, 296 E. 5th Ave. ste. 224.

Music Listings

Thursday 6/18

5th Street Public Market, Jazz Supper Club — 5:30pm.

beergarden, Gerry Rempel Trio (jazz) — 7pm.

Coast Fork Brewing & Shop, Blessed Relief Jazz Trio — 6pm.

Cowfish Dance Club, Z Night — 9pm.

Jazzy Ladies café & club, The Jazz Symbiosis Trio — 6pm.

Kesey Square, Gabe & Nicole (bluegrass) — noon.

Luckey's Club, Funk Night — 9pm.

Oakshire Brewing, The Hip-Billys (folk) — 6pm.

PLAY, DJ Wreck Shop — 6pm.

Springfield Eagles Lodge No. 3597, Thursday Night Jam — 7pm.

Territorial Vineyards & Wine Co, Live Music — 6pm.

WOW Hall, Guttermouth (jam) — 7pm.

Friday 6/19

ArtCity, Song & Poetry Open Mic w/ Julian Kenneth — 6:30pm. FREE-\$15.

Blairally, Church of 80s — 9:15pm.

Cowfish Dance Club, Freek! Dance Party — 9pm.

Drop Bear Brewery, Dakota Harris ('50s covers) — 7pm.

Eugene Science Ctr., Friday Night Laser Shows: Kicking off Summer & Celebrating Juneteenth — 5pm. \$4-8.

Gratitude Brewing, Dan Parslow Band (rock) — 7:30pm.

Low Places, Joel Gibson Jr. (country) — 8pm.

The Garden on Friendly, Honey on Your Tongues (Americana) — 7pm.

The Axe & Fiddle, Nigel Wearne (blues) — 8pm. \$15.

The Embers, The Survivors Band (classic rock) — 8pm.

The Jazz Station, Todd Marston's Integer Trio — 7:30pm.

Viking Brewing W., High Tolerance (rock) — 6pm.

WOW Hall, Terrapin Flyer (jam) — 8pm. \$25-30.

Saturday 6/20

beergarden, Sugar Push (funk) — 7:30pm.

Bennett Vineyards, Riffle (blues rock) — 6pm.

Blairally, Summer Jam '26: PNW Hip-Hop — 9pm. \$12-15.

Broadway House Concerts, The Paula Byrne Quartet — 7:30pm. \$15-25.

Coast Fork Brewery, Inner Limits Band (classic rock) — 6pm.

Cowfish Dance Club, Throwback to the Future — 9pm.

Eugene Saturday Market Stage, Dubious Rubes (Americana) — 2:30pm.

Gratitude Brewing, Joanne Broh Trio (blues) — 7:30pm.

Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, Rock 'n Rewind (classic rock) — 7pm.

Moose Lodge, Swamp Creek (classic rock) — 7pm.

PLAY, Butch Pop Dance Party — 8pm. \$5-10.

The Barn Light Bar, Latin Nights — 9pm.

The Monkey's Paw, Outlandish d'Amour (Police covers) — 7:30pm.

The Shedd, The Sugar Beets Songbook Release Show (Americana) — 7:30pm. \$18-34.

Viking Brewing West, Goat-Mouth w/ Bake Club (jam) — 6pm.

Wetlands, Metalfol (metal) — 7:30pm. \$12.

Zest Kitchen & Bar, DJ William Hawkins (EDM) — 8pm.

Sunday 6/21

Cowfish Dance Club, Goth Night — 9pm.

Even Stevens Bar & Grill, EastSide Sunday Jam — 5pm.

Falling Sky Brewing, Traditional Irish Music Session — 4pm.

First United Methodist Church, Agnes Vojtko & Juan Avendaño (classical) — 3pm.

Gratitude Brewing, Open Mic — 3pm.

Hayworth Wine Bar, Rudolf Korv (singer-songwriter) — 3pm.

Maple Landing, Bhakti Heart Kirtan (folk) — 7pm. \$15-20.

Plank Town Brewing Co., Boxcar Figaro (Americana) — 6pm.

PublicHouse, Open Mic w/ Amblin — 5:30pm.

Sarver Winery, Harlan Rivers Band (Americana) — 2pm.

The Axe & Fiddle, Piss Mist w/ Callow Ruse (punk) — 8pm.

Monday 6/22

beergarden, Bluegrass Jam — 6:30pm.

Blairally, Igor & The Red Elvises (rock & roll) — 8:30pm. \$15-20.

Eugene Faith Ctr., Emerald Valley Chorus Rehearsal — 7pm.

Happy Hours, Open Mic — 8pm.

Houndstooth Public House, Open Mic — 5:30pm.

John Henry's, Landroid w/ BATNAP & Sawbasket (punk) — 9pm.

Tuesday 6/23

Art House, Ak'chamel The Giver of Illness & Derek Monypeny (psychedelic) — 7:30pm. \$20.

Cowfish Dance Club, Techno Night — 9pm.

Highlands Brew Pub, Open Acoustic Night — 6:30pm.

Kesey Square, DJ KDHD — noon.

Oakshire Brewing, Tuesday Bluegrass Jam — 6:30pm.

Oregon Wine Lab, One Mic Open Mic — 5pm.

Wednesday 6/24

Cowfish Dance Club, Millennial Night — 9pm.

Downtown Eugene Public Library, Record Listening Party: The Kinks — 6:30pm.

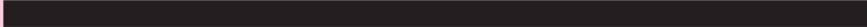


AK'CHAMEL
Courtesy of Ak'chamel

JUNE 23

Ak'chamel, The Giver of Illness, performs June 23 at Art House, playing a mischievous hellbroth of original, ritualistic, psychedelic music from around the world, and offering one of the wildest and weirdest live music experiences out there. The Texas-based trio does not speak to the press and conceals their identities behind masks and costumes that recall shamanistic cultures but reference none. Similarly, the name “Ak’chamel” is also invented. Some who follow the group speculate the word is rooted in Mesoamerican and Mayan culture, and means something along the lines of “skin sacrifice.” They are supporting last year’s album, *Spiritually Unemployed*. Almost completely without discernible vocals, the band’s instrumentation includes several South Asian reed woodwinds and other stringed instruments from global music traditions. Percussion ranges from hand drums like the tabla to the clanks of chains and tin cans. Opening the show is Musician Derek Monypeny, from Yucca Valley, California. He calls himself an unofficial spokesperson for Ak’chamel, leading some to think he’s a band member — which he denies. In the studio, Ak’chamel is always a trio. On this tour, the third member joins on the road for the first time. This version of the band, Monypeny says, “is more overtly rock than it was before. It’s kinetic.” On Ak’chamel’s decision to remain anonymous, Monypeny says the three members mix with the crowd after the show. If you recognize them, they’ll admit they’re in the band. He notes Thomas Pynchon, the American author who famously also never gave interviews. “These people that don’t get interviewed, you want the work to be there and to let people interpret it. There’s a mystery that they want to keep intact,” he says. — Will Kennedy

Ak’Chamel, The Giver of Illness and Derek Monypeny perform 7:30 pm Tuesday, June 23, at Art House, 492 East 13th Avenue. Tickets are \$20 and available at EugeneArtHouse.com. The concert is all ages.



Gratitude Brewing, Open Bluegrass Jam Session — 6pm.

Kesey Square, elias wolf (singer-songwriter) — noon.

Local Losers Lounge, Open Jam — 6pm.

Mulligan's Pub, Open Mic — 8:30pm.

Oak Hill School Amphitheater, Folk Hill w/ Alice Howe & Freebo w/ Clive Carroll (folk) — 7pm. \$25-30.

Roaring Rapids, Swing-Shift Jazz Orchestra — 6:30pm.

The Axe & Fiddle, Sunfish (rock) — 8pm.

The Hybrid, Open Mic — 7:30pm. \$5-15.

The Jazz Station, The Jazz Station Jam — 6:30pm.

Thursday 6/25

beergarden, Possible Human Origins (nice core) — 7pm.

Blairally, Love Mischief (jam) — 9pm. \$8-10.

Emerald Park, Dubious Rubes (Americana) — 6:30pm.

Kesey Square, Pants w/ Pockets (folk) — noon.

The Axe & Fiddle, Mount Saint Elias (indie) — 8:30pm.

The Shedd, Ruthie Foster (blues) — 7:30pm.

WOW Hall, Nearly Dan (Steely Dan covers) — 7:30pm.



HIKING

WILDFLOWERS BLOOM IN
GORDON MEADOWS.
Photo by Chandra LeGue

Gordon Lakes

The wildlands of the South Santiam beckon **BY CHANDRA LEGUE**

Sandwiched between the Willamette Valley and the high Cascades, the “old Cascades” — ancient mountains now eroded into cliffs and plateaus — offer some of the best hikes in the region, with diverse forests, views, wild streams and an explosion of wildflowers this time of year.

Popular trails lead onto some of these old peaks, like Rooster Rock, Iron Mountain and Three Pyramids. Rarer are trails in the valleys, but the Gordon Lakes trail offers mountain meadows and ancient forests nestled between steep cliffs. Streams that arise from these meadows include Falls, Boulder and Three Creeks, which in turn flow into the South Santiam River — a true scenic gem home to salmon and cutthroat trout.

To discover this tucked-away trail, make your way from Eugene to the town of Sweet Home via I-5 North and Hwy 228. Then, follow the South Santiam River upstream (east) along Hwy 20 on the aptly-named “Over the River and Through the Woods Scenic Byway” another 27 miles.

Turn right on Forest Road 2044/Latiwi Creek Road. Follow this good gravel road past the entrance to House Rock Campground and another 5.25 miles. Turn right on Road 230 and follow 2.7 miles to the road’s end and the Gordon Lakes trailhead. You don’t need a permit to park here, but there also are no amenities.

The trail bisects the nearly 10,000 acre Gordon Meadows Inventoried Roadless Area that is currently protected from new incursions of roads and commercial logging by the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

For now. A proposal to repeal this rule is on the table.

The trail first descends into a basin holding the twin Gordon Lakes through a spectacular old-growth forest. This is usually an easy stroll, but a recent storm toppled several giant trees which have to be climbed over or around until trail crews are able to clear them. The forest here is at the western edge of what was once known as the Millennium Grove — an expanse of forest at the headwaters of Three Creek pushing 1,000 years old. Much of this grove was clearcut in the 1970s and

’80s, as battles over old-growth logging were coming to a head.

After passing the lower lake and crossing the stream that connects the lakes, stay to the left and follow the trail west. You’ll gradually gain elevation as you hike through the ancient forest’s shade. Note the diverse mix of trees: smooth gray-barked silver fir, towering noble fir and delicate Western hemlocks. But it’s the gigantic Douglas-fir trees, hundreds of years old and now living legacies scarred by long-ago fires that really stand out. Parts of the trail are lined with woodland wildflowers and scattered shrubs, and you can catch periodic glimpses of Soapgrass Mountain (a basalt cliff) rising to the south.

After about 2 miles, you’ll come across your first meadow, and at the 2.5 mile point, you’ll cross trickling Boulder Creek and get a view of the lush and tangled opening it flows through. Finally, at 3 miles, you’ll reach Gordon Meadows, filled with wildflowers throughout the month of June.

Head back when you’re ready. As you approach the lakes on the return trip, look for a trail to the left. This descends steeply and loops past the upper lake before reaching the little bridge that leads back up towards the trailhead.

If you were hoping for a place to swim and Gordon Lakes disappoint in that department, I recommend a sidequest to a great swimming hole on the South Santiam at the House Rock Campground. Turn off Forest Road 2044 at the campground sign and follow to a parking area just before a bridge and the campground entrance. Follow an obvious path towards the river to find the swim spot between a giant boulder and footbridge. You can also take the short and beautiful House Rock trail by crossing the bridge.

Want to help keep wild places like Gordon Meadows from damaging development and logging? An opportunity to weigh in on preserving the Roadless Area Conservation Rule is expected soon. Check out OregonWild.org/roadless for more background, how to comment, maps, and more suggested hikes.

Chandra LeGue of Eugene is the author of the book Oregon’s Ancient Forests: A Hiking Guide and is the senior conservation advocate at the nonprofit organization Oregon Wild.

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Since my boyfriend moved into his ground floor apartment nine years ago, his apartment has been flooded at least 20 times by his upstairs neighbor, a guy in his 50s. Every time he goes to knock on his neighbor's door and say, "Hey, it's happening again," the guy opens his door wearing a dress or some weird underwear that my straight, vanilla boyfriend struggles to describe. His neighbor always starts apologizing profusely before my boyfriend can even say anything, as if he already knows he caused a flood. I'm trying to help my boyfriend resolve this legally and sell the apartment. I've also found myself expending a lot of mental energy trying to work out exactly what's going on. Is there some kind of kink where people get off on tubs overflowing? Do people masturbate to the sound of running water? I can't understand why he opens the door fully cross-dressed if he's legitimately planning to have a bath. It always happens when this guy's wife is away, and afterwards he emails an OTT apology to my boyfriend saying he is so annoyed at himself and that he just lost track of time, which is why the tub overflowed. I've seen these emails, and they read like they were written in some kind of post-wank shame spiral. What's going on here?

— Freaky Looking Overflowing Old Dude

Your boyfriend's upstairs neighbor doesn't get off to overflowing bathtubs or the sound of running water. He's a cross-dresser with a humiliation kink, FLOOD, who gets off on getting "caught" wearing a dress or underwear so weird it defeats a straight boy's powers of description.

At some point — maybe even before your boyfriend moved in — this old pervert realized that letting his tub overflow would bring his downstairs neighbor to his front door. So now, when the old pervert is home alone, he checks to make sure your boyfriend is home too. If your boyfriend is home, FLOOD, the old pervert stuffs something in the drain specifically designed to prevent his tub from overflowing — overflow drains have been a standard feature on tubs for more than a century — and then he opens the taps. He puts on a dress or some of his weird underwear while the tub fills and

then he goes and sits in his living room stroking his cock while he waits for your boyfriend to knock. After getting "caught" again, and offering up the same lame excuses again (read: after the thrill of exposing himself to your boyfriend yet again), the old pervert closes the tap and then resumes his wank while he thinks about the look on your boyfriend's face, simultaneously draining his tub and his balls.

While there's nothing wrong with thinking about a neighbor while masturbating — each of us is free to masturbate about anyone and anything we choose — forcing a neighbor to make a cameo appearance in your apartment while you're having a wank is not okay. Two more things that aren't okay: the old perv leveraging neighborly social norms (being polite, avoiding conflict, etc.) against someone he's put in an uncomfortable position for his own sexual gratification (so wrong) and then sending emotionally manipulative "apology" emails that that frame the old perv as the victim (that's lowkey DARVO shit.)

You say this started as soon as your boyfriend moved into the apartment, FLOOD, which means the old pervert was probably doing the same thing to whoever lived in your boyfriend's apartment before he moved in. I'm not a real estate lawyer, FLOOD, but if you're trying to build a legal case against your upstairs neighbor and/or your boyfriend's landlord, it feels like an affidavit from the previous occupant of your boyfriend's apartment combined with those OTT apology emails would make for a slam-dunk case.

P.S. You're absolutely right about the mental state your boyfriend's neighbor is in when he writes those OTT apologies: the old pervert is in a shame spiral. But as soon as he's horny again, he's going to be eying the tub. Which brings me back to those OTT emails: your boyfriend might be able to make this stop if he tells his upstairs neighbor that he's going to print out copies of those OTT emails and hand them to the old pervert's wife and the condo association if the old pervert ever floods his basement again.

Got problems? Yes, you do! Email your question for the column to mailbox@savage.love! Or record your question for the Savage Lovecast at savage.love/askdan! Podcasts, columns and more at Savage.Love.



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PERSONALS

I Saw You

Kudos to the gentlemen from the oil change place on W. 11th and Garfield. They picked up and helped a woman who fell when her walker was caught on the crumbling city sidewalk.

BULLETIN BOARD

Announcements

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE Probate Department CASE NO. 26PB05135 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the ESTATE of IDELLA CHARLENE WERNER, Deceased, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on June 5, 2026, Larry Shults was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative's attorney, Susan Ezzy Jordan, Jordan & Williams,

LLC., 180 West 6th Ave., Junction City, OR 97448 (541) 342-8110, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND PUBLISHED: JUNE 18TH, 2026.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of DAVID MANLEY HAYNES, Deceased, Case No. 26PB04758. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS-Notice is hereby given that Donald M. Haynes has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as state below, to the personal representative at: Donald M. Haynes, C/O Barry Davis, Attorney at Law, PO Box 5883, Eugene, OR 97405, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: June 18th, 2026. S/ Donald M. Haynes, Personal Representative. Barry Davis, Attorney for Personal Representative, PO Box 5883, Eugene, OR 97405, (541)343-3656.

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED MANUFACTURED HOME -Salmon Creek Mobile Home Park, LLC, an Oregon Limited liability company will sell the below, described manufactured home by private sealed bid for the highest offered received. The home has been abandoned. The home, former tenant and owner are described below. Bids for cash payment will be accepted until 9 am, July 3, 2026. Interested parties may contact landlord's agent c/o Karla Buck by phone at 541-782-2532 to make arrangements to inspect the home. Bids may be submitted to P.O Box 844, Oakridge, OR 97463 or by phone at 541-782-2532, for the following manufactured home described as: Manufacturer: SKYLINE; Year: 1979; Model: UNKNOWN; Serial: 01910747A and 0191074B; Home ID No.: 228057; and X-Plate No.: X164214, located at premises otherwise known as: 48228 Highway 58, Space #4, Oakridge, Lane County, Oregon 97463. The former owners and tenants are Personal Representative of the Estate of Perry A and Rebekah Clemons, Heirs, Devisees, and Interested Parties, All Other Occupants, Sjon Clemons, Sean Clemons, Sam Peasley, Sean Peasley, Edward Peasley, and Dan Peasley.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ReNew, LLC, an Oregon limited liability company (the "Company"), has dissolved as of May 29, 2026. Pursuant to ORS 63.644, any person with a claim against the Company is directed to present such claim to the Company by mailing a detailed description of the claim to the Company's attorneys, Hershner Hunter, LLP, Attn: Mario D. Conte, P.O. Box 1475, Eugene, Oregon 97440. Any claim against the Company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within five years after the date of publication of this notice.

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 819 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/22/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by LILLY PAD TOWING 25581 HWY 126 VENETA, OR 2018 DODG JOU L VIN = 3C4PDCAB1J383357 Amount due on lien \$7606.00 Reputed owner(s) > LAURA LEA THOMAS VEROS CREDIT LLC

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/23/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by COPART OF WASHINGTON INC-EUGENE 29815 ENID RD EAST EUGENE, OR 2018 TOYT 4RU LL VIN = JTEBUSJROJ5536065 Amount due on lien \$1490.00 Reputed owner(s) > CHERYL ANN BRUBAKER

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/23/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by COPART OF WASHINGTON INC-EUGENE 29815 ENID RD EAST EUGENE, OR 2018 HOND CIV HB VIN = SHHF7H59JU409158 Amount due on lien \$1570.00 Reputed owner(s) > CANDY GLORIA MORA C/O FARMERS INS T

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PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/23/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by COPART OF WASHINGTON INC-EUGENE 29815 ENID RD EAST EUGENE, OR 2019 FORD RNG 4WD VIN = 1FTR4FH9KLA03321 Amount due on lien \$1550.00 Reputed owner(s) > JOHN BOYETTE CHRISTOPHER > JOHN BOYETTE CHRISTOPHER

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/29/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by BLUE ROSE AUTO 3436 OLYMPIC ST SPRINGFIELD, OR 2015 FIAT 500 2D VIN = 3C3OFFER1T716539 Amount due on lien \$20041.21 Reputed owner(s) > TOKIKO SARA CREWE TAKAHANI

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/30/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by COPART OF WASHINGTON INC-EUGENE 29815 ENID RD EAST EUGENE, OR 2023 MERZ LL VIN = 4JGGMICB9PA001153 Amount due on lien \$1490.00 Reputed owner(s) > MICHAEL JOHN QUERUBIN MERCEDES-BENZ VEHICLE TRUST - LESSO COLLATERAL TITLE CO

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 87 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/30/2026. The sale will be held at 10:00am by COPART OF WASHINGTON INC-EUGENE 29815 ENID RD EAST EUGENE, OR 2020 SUBA FOR 4D VIN = JF2SKAUC1LHS14976 Amount due on lien \$1490.00 Reputed owner(s) > CHRISTOPHER T' & DONNA R HAMLIN JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA

PURSUANT TO ORS CHAPTER 98 Notice is hereby given that the following vehicle will be sold, for cash to the highest bidder, on 6/23/2026. The sale will be held a t 10:00am by ALPHA TOWING & RECOVERY LLC. 118 CLEVELAND ST EUGENE, OR 1997 FORD F800 VIN = IFDXF80C0VVA02813 Amount due on lien \$12910.00 Reputed owner(s) SOUTHERN OREGON COMMUNICATIONS



FREE WILL Astrology
WEEK OF JUNE 18 BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Aries mathematician Paul Erdős lived without a permanent address, traveling the world to collaborate with other mathematicians. He owned little, claiming "property is a nuisance." His life was structured around doing mathematics and helping others do mathematics. He published over 1,500 papers, more than any mathematician in history. Was his minimalism a form of deprivation? I prefer to think it was liberation from everything that didn't serve his purpose. What would your life be like if you eliminated things that don't serve your deepest purposes, Aries? In the coming weeks, you have permission to be ruthless about your priorities. What are you maintaining out of habit rather than conviction? What burdens masquerade as responsibilities?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A friend told me about the creative writing class he took with renowned poet Brenda Hillman. "I recall being in class," he says, "and having the thought, wow, this teacher works far harder at teaching than I do at learning." Dear Taurus, please don't indulge in a similar laziness anytime soon. Your educational opportunities are currently richer than usual. To extract the full benefit, you must match the verve and vigor of your teachers. (PS: The teachers may or may not think of themselves as teachers. They could even be animals, rainstorms or ancestors.)

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Eastern monarch butterflies migrate annually from the American Midwest to central Mexico. The individuals who start the journey from Nebraska or Wisconsin die long before they reach the oyamel fir trees of Mexico. So do their children and their grandchildren. Their great-grandchildren finish the trip, though they have never been to the destination. Somehow they know where to go, navigating thousands of miles to trees they've never seen. Let's apply this as a metaphor for you, Gemini. I suspect you are carrying navigational wisdom you didn't realize you possessed. Inherited knowledge, encoded deep in your secret places, is ready to guide you. So pay attention to inexplicable certainties. Trust the directions that arrive without logical explanation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A large earthquake doesn't relieve stress evenly along a fault. Instead, it creates zones where stress is reduced and others where stress increases, making future ruptures more likely. So the stress is redistributed, but not uniformly. According to my reading of the omens, Cancerian, you recently experienced a metaphorical shake-up. I suggest you identify where stress has grown and where it has dissipated. Your next moves should account for this new distribution of pressure. Some areas of your life are now more vulnerable, while others have become more stable. Read the landscape accurately before proceeding.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Songbirds like zebra finches practice their melodies while asleep. Their vocal muscles move in ways that mirror daytime singing. These replay patterns help young birds learn their songs and adults maintain and refine their tunes over time. I suspect that you are engaged in a similar type of learning, Leo. You are enhancing skills and uncovering insights while asleep and dreaming. Bonus! Even when awake, you're absorbing clues on a subconscious level. Your deeper intelligence is gathering information you will need for your upcoming breakthroughs. Hooray for mysterious help!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Architects who design concert halls know that perfect sound isn't achieved through perfect smoothness. The best acoustics come from strategic irregularities, textured walls and angled surfaces that distribute vibrations in pleasing ways. Too much uniformity creates dead zones and echoes; too much chaos creates muddle. Pleasing resonance arises from organized complexity. In my estimation, Virgo, your life is currently too smooth in some areas and too haphazard in others. You may need more strategic irregularity. Consider introducing productive unpredictability into relationships that have become too routine. Add inventive structure to efforts that have become shapeless. Don't aim for either total order or complete randomness. What will generate maximum beauty?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Have you ever been ambushed by unexpected bursts of gratification emerging from subtle miracles? Maybe a loved one finally grasps a truth you've been trying to convey for eons. Or you feel balanced in a situation that once made you feel lopsided. Or you grasp, with shivers of awe, that you got uncanny spiritual guidance at a key crossroads. I foresee at least three such blessings for you in the coming weeks. To ensure you recognize them, don't get distracted in the pursuit of splashy bonanzas and gaudy prizes. Be nimbly alert for subtle breakthroughs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Poet Emily Dickinson rarely left her family home but bequeathed us a marvelous body of lyrical work as she roamed through vast inner worlds. Sci-fi novelist Octavia Butler rose early to write before long shifts at low-paid jobs, imagining visionary futures during her limited hours to be creative. Lucille Clifton raised six children while shaping poems of distilled, luminous insight, showing us how to summon fierce originality from a life crowded with responsibilities. Moral of the story: Buoyant power can flourish even when circumstances are limited. This lesson may be relevant for you in the coming weeks. If conditions seem imperfect or incomplete, trust that your resilience and adaptability can compensate for external obstacles. I have faith in your ability to generate useful beauty.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Our tongues are primed to heal astonishingly fast thanks to dense blood vessels, saliva's repair proteins and a rapid immune response. Wounds that would take more patience elsewhere can heal here in days. I suspect that your psyche now possesses your tongue's high level of healing power. So I hope you will launch a phase of accelerated repair. Call on every possible form of therapeutic assistance, please!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Now is an ideal time to clear out old romantic karma from the past. Please consider performing a DIY ritual to release painful memories, leftover grudges and long-standing hurts that keep tugging at your intimate connections. The coming weeks will also be a favorable phase to discard rigid beliefs about gender and dismantle anything that blocks you from experiencing full-bodied sensual and sexual delight. Expect to be freed from at least some energies that have limited your ability to explore fun and vigorous ways of savoring your desires.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I suggest you adopt a new honorary title like "Charm Weaver" or "Emissary of Radiance" or "Beauty Whisperer." Why? Because I hope it will help inspire you to stir up delightful play and lyrical mystery wherever you wander. For instance: Infuse your conversations with sparkling harmony and sly, graceful humor. Burst into whimsical songs, fling out extravagant compliments, pose clever questions that spark fresh ideas and call attention to systems and relationships in your world that are functioning wonderfully well. Many perks will flow your way as you do.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Is there a dream from childhood that you're ready to revive on a higher octave? Think of something you longed for before the world told you to be boringly realistic: an art you wanted to practice, a way you wanted to live, or the kind of person you hoped to become. The question isn't "Can I go back and do it exactly the same?" but "What is the mature, wiser, present-day version of that dream?" You might write in your journal: "The childhood dream I'm ready to lift to a higher octave is _____," and then add, "If I took one concrete step toward it, what would it be?"

Homework: Beam unconditional acceptance at a part of yourself you often criticize. Newsletter.FreeWillAstrology.com.

Go to RealAstrology.com

CHECK OUT EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES AND DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES.

SUDOKU

Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once.

	7					3	
8	9			5		2	7
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LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

2	7	5	3	8	9	1	6	4
6	8	1	2	4	5	7	9	3
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4	9	2	1	7	3	5	8	6
3	5	6	8	9	2	4	1	7
7	1	8	4	5	6	9	3	2
5	6	3	9	1	4	2	7	8
8	2	9	5	3	7	6	4	1
1	4	7	6	2	8	3	5	9

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Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES

"Room for Development" — gotta know where to look.

Across

- 1. Vamoose
- 6. Campaign ctrs.
- 9. "That's the way ____"
- 13. Wrestler Stratus
- 14. Well-behaved
- 16. Computer-generated art, uncharitably
- 18. Criticize harshly
- 19. "Can I bother you?"
- 21. Abbr. on a vitamin bottle
- 22. Boston skyscraper nickname, with "the"
- 23. Before, in poems
- 24. "____ Beso (That Kiss!)" (1962 Paul Anka hit)
- 25. "Jeopardy!" end-of-season event, for short
- 26. Completely asleep
- 27. Cheese exterior
- 29. "The Santaland Diaries" occupation
- 31. Face-in-hands reaction to

- a bad landing, perhaps
- 33. Racecar driver?
- 35. Gem finder
- 36. Beachside establishment where "there's always money," on "Arrested Development"
- 39. Coastal area
- 41. Yogurt brand founded in Colorado
- 42. "The Color Purple" author
- 44. Senior exec. with a J.D.
- 45. Yanks' opponents
- 49. Ugandan dictator Amin
- 50. Floatie filler
- 52. Row or verb ender?
- 54. Guardians, on the scoreboard
- 55. Network launched in 1981
- 56. Report card stat
- 57. Log off
- 59. Like someone shivering

- in a cold wind, maybe
- 62. Chooses by ballot
- 63. Goes along with
- 64. Nebraska's largest city
- 65. Sit for a painting
- 66. Assessment
- 67. As bad as it gets

Down

- 1. Theater director, say
- 2. A ____ (deductively)
- 3. Pay attention
- 4. Ibiza, por ejemplo
- 5. The items over there
- 6. In great demand
- 7. Cube-hopping '80s arcade creature
- 8. Recreational watercraft brand
- 9. Number opposite IX on a clock
- 10. Value of a U.K. note currently depicting Jane

- Austen on the back
- 11. Butt in
- 12. More heaviest
- 15. Euros replaced them in Greece
- 17. Spanish currency before the euro
- 20. Costa Rican currency (or, without the accent, a punctuation mark)
- 28. Former German currency, for short
- 30. Swiss currency used in Liechtenstein
- 32. Currency of Libya, Jordan, or Algeria
- 34. Base unit of U.S. gold coins prior to 1933 (equivalent to \$10)
- 36. Venezuelan monetary units (in the English plural)
- 37. Peruvian currency in the plural (or bottoms of shoes)
- 38. Canadian \$2 coin, informally
- 39. Pool wear
- 40. Couldn't stay
- 43. Best for picking
- 46. Green vehicle
- 47. Fictional family who owned the 36-Across
- 48. Attacks
- 51. Reggae musician, often
- 53. Brightly burning
- 58. "Finding ____" (2003 film)
- 60. Golf ball holder
- 61. 2004 jinx-breaking team, casually

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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65					66						67			

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S

H	A	R	D	E	N		M	G	M	T		F	F	F
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With this Score *Everyone Wins*

Home Energy Score Programs
provide valuable transparency

Knowledge is power and the Home Energy Score (HES) Time of Listing Ordinance would allow home buyers to know upfront how much energy their new home will use and what it would cost. No more guessing at the hidden costs of energy inefficiency in their prospective homes. The score, a number from 1-10 given by an authorized home energy assessor, is a standardized way to talk about home energy efficiency created by the U.S. Department of Energy. Similar to a 'walkability score,' the HES is a quick and transparent way to communicate to potential buyers what type of energy efficiency they are looking at when scrolling through Zillow or Redfin. Municipalities across Oregon and the United States are using HES Ordinances to provide transparent, customized information that can enable improvements for energy efficiency and reduce costs. Eugene's City Council is considering following suit.

Why Transparency Matters

A buyer should have an idea of what their energy costs will look like when investing in a property. Recently, a home buyer in Eugene explained that one of the reasons he is moving is because of the high energy costs in his previous rental. "I was paying upwards of \$400 a month for heat, the house was drafty and inefficient," he explained. Similar feedback was shared during the community engagement efforts conducted by the City of Eugene Office of Sustainability: "I just bought a house, and it would have been helpful to know these things before. Now I'm paying to fix things like my water heater and adding insulation which has cost me thousands of dollars."

Personalized Report with Home - Specific Guidance

The HES comes with a customized list of recommended energy improvements which could encourage homeowners to make upgrades before selling or provide guidance to future owners as they seek to improve their home's efficiency and reduce energy costs, during a time when they may be making other renovations prior to moving in. **The cost for sellers to get their score is low relative to the transaction, plus the score can last for years,** minimizing the burden on sellers.

The report also provides information on available incentives and rebates to help finance upgrades. The customized-nature of the report is key to providing useful information. Rather than a generalized list of ways to improve energy-efficiency and reduce costs, **the HES provides information on which upgrades will provide the most savings or benefits for a specific home,** and which order of actions can help the owner to access available incentives.

Affordability

This comes in an important moment as Eugenians and Oregonians face higher energy and utility costs. Critics of the proposal are concerned this would raise housing prices, complicate real estate transactions, or harm low income sellers, but the data from cities that have enacted HES programs haven't seen those issues. Newer homes with higher price tags don't always have a higher score, and home pricing (and shopping) depend on many factors buyers consider: the overall size or number of bedrooms, the yard, the commute to work or school, the feel of the

neighborhood and proximity to places they enjoy. According to the Oregon Department of Energy, **34% of Lane County residents are considered "Energy-Burdened," spending at least 6% of their household income on energy-related expenditures.** These costs go up as utility rates rise and more extreme temperatures in winter and summer increase the need to run heaters, air conditioners, and air purifiers. Prospective buyers benefit from the transparency provided, and low-income home owners who are most likely to be energy burdened have the most to gain from clear information on potential costs and available incentive programs.

Home repairs and upgrades, and rebate and incentive programs can be overwhelming and confusing with many technical details. The customized information in the HES report provides clarity and serves as a motivator to make investments that reduce long-term costs. **As a community, we all stand to gain from a Home Energy Score Ordinance: improving efficiency is vital to reduce loads on our energy grid and improve community-wide energy resilience.**



AUTHORS

Isa Eisenberg is Fossil Free Eugene's Youth Engagement Intern, an organizer with Climate Justice League, and recent UO graduate.

Meredith Tufts is the Fossil Free Eugene Coalition Coordinator.

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